

was active in the community as well, serving as a member of the Durango Elks Lodge and Masonic Lodge. He served our country in the Navy during World War II as part of the medical corps in the South Pacific. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Callaway was a selfless man, giving endlessly to ensure the well-being of others. His service to this great nation, as well as his 42 years of medical service and countless years of kindness to the citizens of the Durango community, are honorable and worthy of recognition. I am confident that in spite of this great loss, the family and friends of Dr. Sam Callaway can take comfort in the knowledge that each is a better person for having known him. It is with this that I pay tribute to the life of this accomplished and wonderful man.

#### REPEAL OF THE FEDERAL CHARTER OF THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

**HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2000*

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, the House of Representatives recently voted on H.R. 4892, a bill to repeal the federal charter of the Boy Scouts of America. I voted against the bill, and would like to take this opportunity to explain my reasons.

My vote against this legislation should not in any way be interpreted as a weakening in my support for banning discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. I deplore discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. I will continue to work to meaningfully expand our nation's civil rights protections for gays and lesbians.

At the same time, I share the concerns raised by others about the policy of discrimination that gave rise to the Supreme Court case in *Boy Scouts of America versus Dale*. Certainly we all recognize the high regard the Boy Scouts of America are held in by millions of Americans. The organization has played a positive role in the lives of millions of young Americans.

In June, a sharply divided Supreme Court held that applying New Jersey's public accommodations law to require the Boy Scouts to admit a homosexual member violates the Boy Scouts' First Amendment right of expressive association. As a practical matter, therefore, the Boy Scouts will be permitted to exclude citizens from participating in their organization solely on the basis of their sexual orientation. I regret the Supreme Court's decision.

Unfortunately, a Congressional review of the federal charter given to the Boy Scouts, and the process the Republican leadership has employed in bringing this bill to the House floor, is not the appropriate venue to address this issue. I am disappointed that the Judiciary Committee did not fulfill its responsibility to hold hearings on this legislation. I strongly believe that the Republican leadership has not properly reviewed the underlying legal and constitutional issues at stake in this bill, and I regret that the bill has been brought up under the suspension of the rules. Under this procedure, members have no opportunity to ask questions or offer amendments. Rather than considering legislation to revoke the federal charter of the Boy Scouts—which in and of

itself will do nothing to protect our society from discrimination—this Congress should be considering substantive legislation to strengthen anti-discrimination laws based on one's sexual preference.

I also believe that Congress should conduct a comprehensive review of its system of granting charters to private organizations. As you know, Congress has chartered roughly 90 nonprofit corporations over the years, including many well-known patriotic, charitable, historical, or educational purpose organizations. I share the concerns of my colleagues that the public may misinterpret the granting of a federal charter as a sign of Congressional or governmental approval of an organization. In 1989, the House Judiciary Committee decided to place a moratorium on federal charters. I believe the Committee should examine whether Congress should allow existing federal charters to lapse, so that Congress is no longer in the business of seeming to endorse private organizations.

Let me reiterate that I believe discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation is unacceptable. I will continue to support H.R. 1082, to expand federal criminal law protection to extend to sexual orientation, and I will continue to work for the enactment of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA). I believe that the Congress must take concrete steps to revise government policies that would bring about a more inclusive American family, which embraces all of our citizens as individuals worthy of equal protection of the law.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MAJOR R. OWENS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2000*

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, September 12, 2000, I was unavoidably absent on a matter of critical importance and missed the following votes:

On H.R. 2090 (rollcall No. 460), Exploration of the Seas Act, introduced by the gentleman from Pennsylvania, Mr. GREENWOOD, I would have voted "yea."

On H.R. 4957 (rollcall No. 461), to amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act to extend the legislative authority for the Black Patriots Foundation, introduced by the gentleman from New York, Mr. RANGEL, I would have voted "yea."

On H.R. 3632, (rollcall No. 462), the Golden Gate National Recreation Area Boundary Adjustment Act, introduced by the gentleman from California, Mr. LANTOS, I would have voted "yea."

On H.R. 4583, (rollcall No. 463), authorization extension for the Air Force Memorial Foundation, introduced by the gentleman from Utah, Mr. HANSEN, I would have voted "yea".

On S. 1374 (rollcall No. 464), the Jackson Multi-Agency Campus Act, introduced by the gentleman from the other body, Mr. CRAIG of Idaho, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING DR. KENT VOSLER

**HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2000*

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Kent Vosler. On September 16, 2000 Dr. Vosler will be admitted into the Ohio State University Athletic Hall of Fame. In addition to his contribution to the Buckeye Diving team, Kent was also on the 1976 Montreal Olympic team.

Kent is one of a long list of great Ohio State divers. His accomplishments at Ohio State were many. He was a four time NCAA All-American and a four time Ohio State Scholar Athlete. While a senior in high school he won gold medals in 1 meter diving and in 10 meter platform diving at the national age group championships, and was coached at various times by Ohio State Hall of Famers Ron O'Brien, Vince Panzano and Hobie Billingsley. He later won four National AAU diving championships, was a member of the 1975 Pan American Games American team, and the 1976 Olympic team.

Kent was born December 6, 1955 in Dayton, Ohio but he now considers Eaton, Ohio, in the heart of Ohio's 8th Congressional District his home. He is the only Olympian to ever hail from Preble County, Ohio. All of Ohio is proud of Kent and I congratulate him on his many accomplishments.

HONORING DR. JOE VIGIL

**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2000*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege and an honor to have this opportunity to pay tribute to one of Alamosa's most well-loved and admired coaches, Dr. Joe Vigil, as he prepares to leave Adams State College after a decorated and distinguished 29-year career. Joe has been the embodiment of service and success during his time at Adams State and clearly deserves the praise and recognition of this body as he, his runners and the town of Alamosa, Colorado celebrate his groundbreaking career.

If ever there were a person who embodied the spirit and values that motivate others to achieve success, it is Joe. He has distinguished himself through his exceptional leadership and service that have placed him amongst the elite running coaches in the country. He was voted No. 3 on the list of Colorado's top collegiate coaches in the past 100 years and received the honor of NCAA and NAIA Coach Of The Year 14 times. He has also served the United States as an international coach on 17 different occasions, including several Olympic Games. Most notably, Joe coached his teams to 18 national championships, accounting for more than 350 All-Americans.

Mr. Speaker, Joe's commitment to his community has been so great that it led the Alamosa City Council to proclaim August 12, 2000, Joe I. Vigil day. Their proclamation reads:

"Whereas Dr. Joe I. Vigil has led Adams State College teams to athletic excellence